

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	China/Korea	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>
SUBJECT	Transfer of Five Chinese Communist Armies from Korea to China	DATE DISTR.	8 April 1953
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REFERENCES

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1. In mid-February 1953 three Chinese Communist armies, including the 20 Army, 9 Army Group, and the 42 Army, 14 Army Group, were transferred from Northeast China to the particular areas in Central and South China or East China where they had been based prior to their assignment to Korea.¹ These armies, which were subordinate to either the 3 or 4 Field Armies and were among the first to be assigned to Korea, were to be trained and regrouped, and were then to participate in the defense of the areas to which they were returning.
2. Two additional armies, which were still in Korea in February and which were subordinate to either the 3 or 4 Field Armies, were to be transferred to the mainland to reinforce coastal defenses.

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1. Comment. According to available information, in early March there were indications that the 20, 26, and 27 Armies were moving into China from Korea and that the 42 Army had been already transferred to China. The 42 Army was one of the original components of the 13 Army Group when this army group was activated in November 1948. The 14 Army Group is believed to have been inactivated.

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Comment. Prior to their commitment to the Korean War, the 20 Army was based in the Shanghai-Hangchow area and the 42 Army in Hupeh in 1949 and in Manchuria in early 1950. Later information confirms the transfer of the 20 Army, as well as the 26 and 27 Army, from Korea back to China.

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